



Tennessee Crop Weather

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending April 18, 2010

VERY DRY WEEK ALLOWS FOR PLANTING PROGRESS

A high pressure system delivered above average temperatures and almost no precipitation across the state last week, giving farmers ample opportunities to prepare fields or plant corn. Corn acreage planted surged ahead of the five-year average. The lack of rain and wind last week also allowed farmers to apply fertilizer and burndown herbicides to crop fields and pastures. In some areas, concerns of low topsoil moisture by the end of the week led some producers to cease crop planting, but most areas of the state still retain adequate soil moisture. Warm weather has spurred pasture and wheat growth. Although temperatures began to drop Friday evening, there was no damaging frost. The apple, peach, and strawberry crops all appear to be in good shape thus far.

There were 7 days suitable for fieldwork last week. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 4 percent very short, 27 percent short, 64 percent adequate and 5 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 19 percent short, 72 percent adequate and 9 percent surplus. Temperatures across the state averaged between 6 to 7 degrees above normal. Precipitation averaged below normal, with no rain whatsoever recorded in most places.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2009	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Apples – Budding or Beyond	95	84	95	93	Apples	0	1	8	78	13
Apples – Blooming or Beyond	67	29	62	69	Pastures	0	8	35	48	9
Corn – Planted	59	15	10	37	Strawberries	0	1	21	60	18
Corn – Emerged	12	NA	6	15	Winter Wheat	1	4	18	57	20
Winter Wheat – Jointed	71	40	71	84						
Winter Wheat – Top Dressed	97	89	95	96						

NA = not available

County Agent Comments

“Drier and warmer weather has allowed farmers to plant many acres of corn this week with most almost finished. A couple of farmers have even started planting some acres of soybeans. Cotton acres should begin to be planted within the next two weeks. The Mississippi River backwater had been covering many acres but has begun to decline, many producers will be watching this next front coming through the Ohio Valley.”

James Griffin, Lauderdale County

“The farmers in Fayette County were able to make good progress planting corn last week. The weather cooperated and the dry conditions let producers get a lot accomplished. Corn planting will continue this week as well as putting out fertilizer and getting ground ready for cotton planting.”

Jeffery D. Via, Fayette County

“Lack of rain has halted pasture and hay growth. Both look good but are not growing. Some producers have opened hay fields to grazing. Wheat growth is also halted due to lack of rain. Apples and peaches look good. Some are still blooming. Strawberries look good but have been irrigated.”

Ruth Correll, Wilson County

“Dry and warm conditions allowed for uninterrupted field work. A cold front passing through at the week’s end failed to produce any rain, lower temperatures did not produce any frost. Producers made good use of the weather to catch up on spring field work. Soil conditions are beginning to get a little dry and most producers wishing for a good rain. Several corn producers are reporting finished, or will finish, planting in the coming week”

Ed Burns, Franklin County

“Topsoil drying quickly with low humidity and wind. Very little rain over the past month.”

Chris Ramsey, Sullivan County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: April 18, 2010 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending April 18, 2010				Current Week 4/18/10	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
West										
Ames_Plantation	86	45	65	4	0.00	0	14.80	-2.38	1.72	-1.69
Brownsville_TN	85	42	66	6	0.00	0	13.66	-3.32	2.10	-1.08
Covington	84	44	65	6	0.00	0	13.39	-3.53	1.78	-1.46
Dyersburg	86	45	67	6	0.00	0	11.46	-4.13	1.69	-1.08
Huntingdon_Wate	86	40	65	7	0.00	0	12.58	-3.96	2.01	-0.77
Jackson_Exp_Stn	86	43	66	8	0.00	0	13.45	-2.83	2.13	-0.87
Lexington_TN	86	40	64	6	0.00	0	14.48	-1.46	1.24	-1.51
Martin	87	41	67	9	0.00	0	11.73	-4.57	1.60	-1.46
Memphis_AG	86	46	67	5	0.00	0	15.24	-1.55	2.28	-1.02
Milan	86	37	65	7	0.00	0	12.16	-4.40	2.25	-0.69
Paris	85	37	64	7	0.00	0	11.19	-5.27	2.24	-0.71
Savannah_6SW	86	39	65	4	0.00	0	16.27	-2.43	1.05	-2.19
Selmer	86	38	65	6	0.00	0	15.30	-3.18	1.35	-1.89
Union_City	83	41	64	7	0.00	0	13.99	-2.08	1.95	-0.94
Middle										
Clarksville_Sew	86	38	64	7	0.00	0	7.52	-8.91	0.50	-2.28
Cookeville	84	35	61	5	0.04	2	15.51	-2.31	0.46	-2.33
Crossville_AP	82	36	63	8	0.00	0	13.80	-4.15	0.74	-2.19
Dickson_AG	86	36	63	5	0.00	0	12.95	-4.10	1.10	-1.94
Dover_1W	86	38	65	8	0.00	0	10.14	-6.76	2.02	-0.98
Fayetteville_TN	84	40	64	8	0.00	0	15.28	-2.86	0.48	-2.38
Jamestown	83	33	61	6	0.05	1	14.43	-2.08	0.65	-2.02
Kingston_Spring	89	35	64	8	0.00	0	11.51	-5.21	0.77	-1.98
Lawrenceburg_Fl	83	40	59	2	0.00	0	17.31	-1.34	0.50	-2.33
Lewisburg	86	30	59	3	0.00	0	12.68	-4.69	0.65	-2.14
Linden	88	35	63	6	0.00	0	12.25	-5.65	1.29	-1.62
Livingston_WLIV	85	36	62	5	0.10	1	15.18	-0.93	0.36	-2.23
Murfreesboro_5N	86	37	63	5	0.00	0	13.28	-3.15	0.47	-2.18
Nashville_Metro	86	43	66	8	0.00	0	10.93	-3.89	0.51	-2.07
Oneida	84	35	60	7	0.02	2	12.81	-3.72	0.69	-1.97
Portland_TN	85	37	65	8	0.00	0	5.76	-10.16	0.67	-1.95
Pulaski_Water_P	83	36	61	-1	0.00	0	14.51	-3.63	0.46	-2.29
Shelbyville	86	37	64	5	0.00	0	13.17	-4.48	0.53	-2.24
Sparta_TN	84	36	62	5	0.00	0	18.77	1.45	0.58	-2.17
Springfield	85	38	65	9	0.53	2	12.40	-3.06	1.75	-0.84
Springhill	87	39	63	7	0.00	0	13.73	-3.92	0.40	-2.64
Tullahoma	84	40	63	4	0.01	1	15.00	-3.96	0.44	-2.55
East										
Chattanooga/Lov	87	46	67	9	0.00	0	14.35	-4.07	0.99	-1.70
Cleveland_6NNE	83	39	64	7	0.00	0	15.10	-3.14	0.85	-1.83
Dayton	84	41	64	6	0.00	0	15.33	-3.47	0.83	-1.95
Erwin_1W	81	37	61	9	0.08	1	8.27	-5.62	0.77	-1.61
Gatlinburg_2SW	83	35	62	8	0.00	0	12.22	-4.31	1.30	-1.29
Greeneville	82	36	60	5	0.00	0	8.51	-4.21	1.19	-0.84
Kingston_AG	85	38	65	9	0.00	0	14.92	-3.86	0.59	-2.11
Knoxville_AP	84	42	65	9	0.01	1	12.73	-2.87	0.70	-1.58
Newcomb	86	34	61	8	0.03	2	11.89	-4.64	0.59	-2.07
Norris_4NE	85	34	62	7	0.00	0	14.75	-1.74	0.60	-2.00
Tri-City_RGNL_A	81	36	61	7	0.08	2	8.79	-3.56	0.82	-1.16

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
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